

IN SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MARCH 14, 1848.

Submitted, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. WESTCOTT made the following

REPORT:

*The Committee of Claims, to whom was referred the petition of Volney E. Howard, Bainbridge Howard, and David Skelton, report:*

That the proofs submitted with the petition are imperfect, and entirely insufficient to justify the relief prayed for being granted by Congress, although it may be that petitioner has an equitable and just claim for that or other relief. It is supposed that full information exists in the office of the Solicitor of the Treasury as to all the facts of the case, but, if not, such information can readily be obtained by that officer by correspondence with those officers who had the management of the business out of which the claim arises, in the State of Mississippi. The petitioner can adduce to him such proofs as he may deem proper, under the direction of the Solicitor, to perfect his claim. In order that Congress may act advisedly in the premises, and that justice may be done to all parties, the committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution in this case:

*Resolved*, That the petition of Volney E. Howard, Bainbridge Howard, and David Skelton, with the accompanying papers, be transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to the Solicitor of the Treasury, and that said Solicitor be directed to obtain full information as to the facts of said case, and to receive such legal proof as petitioners may submit to him; and that he make full report thereof, as to the said case, to the Senate; and that in the mean time the Solicitor be authorized, in his discretion, to suspend proceedings against the petitioners.

IN SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MARCH 14, 1868.

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REPORT:

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